

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

4/27/04

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 943 (Kuipers) SB 944 (Hardiman)

SB 943 bills focus on teaching abstinence until marriage, provide information on how they can learn more about the safe delivery of newborns law and adoption services, and include a discussion of the possible emotional, economic and legal consequences of sex. The bill requires that students are taught the laws of this state pertaining to sexual activity including gross indecency between males, gross indecency between females, sodomy and indecent exposure

The substitute, S-3, requires that school districts establish a health advisory board that will establish program goals and objectives for knowledge and skills that will reduce levels of adolescent sexual intercourse. They will review materials and methods of instruction and at least once every two years develop procedures for evaluating, measuring and reporting the attainment of program goals and objectives. The bill adds a new section to the school code that requires school districts to establish Health Advisory Committees co-chaired by a parent, and with at least half of the members parents, to review sex education curriculum materials.

Support: Michigan Family Forum, Michigan Catholic Conference, the Education groups are supporting the bill due to Senator Kuiper's willingness to work with them on substantial changes.

Oppose: Planned Parenthood.

- Kuipers 1 (S-3) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 943 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- JACOBS 1 (2 amends) was defeated [no RC]. The health advisory board would have to receive training on sexually-transmitted diseases.
- JACOBS 2 (2 amends) was defeated [no RC].
- Birkholz 3 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- SB 943 passed [RC 240: 30 yes, 8 no].

Currently, the school aid act contains a penalty provision for districts that fail to notify parents in advance of sex education, the content of the curriculum, the right to observe the instruction or the right to have their pupil excused. SB 944 adds the new requirements imposed under SB 943 and allows a person who believes a district has violated the law may file a complaint at the local level, then can go to the intermediate school district prior to filing a complaint with the Department of Education. The Superintendent may impose a 1% state aid penalty for a violation.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated [no RC].
- Kuipers 2 (S-4) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 944 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 944 passed [RC 239: 31 yes, 7 no].

THIRD READING

SB 145 (Bishop)

SB 145 would provided a process for a county board of commissioners to transfer jurisdiction of a county road back to the County Road Commission if the road was once under jurisdiction of the bounty road commission and a) the road has been blocked for more than 6 months for no compelling reason, b) the road should not be blocked for reasons of public health, safety or welfare and c) the road is used to serve more than one city or village within the county.

- Patterson 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 145 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 599 (BASHAM)

SB 599 would provide that a child of a person employed by a school district could enroll in that district even if it is not the resident district. The child would not have to enroll under schools of choice.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 599 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 850-51 (Allen)

SB 850 would mandate that, as of October 1, 2004, all state contracts and payrolls be paid electronically.

Support: State Universities of Michigan, MI Concrete Paving Assn., County Road Assn., MI Bankers Assn., MI Retailers' Assn.

- Allen 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- Allen 2 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- Allen 3 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 850 was moved to 3rd Reading.

<u>SB 851</u> would allow an employer to pay an employee by cash, check or draft or electronic transfer (direct deposit). The employer would make the choice. If electronic transfer is mandated, the employee would be given six (6) weeks to make the necessary arrangements with a financial institution.

• SB 851 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4172 (Meyer)

HB 4172 would require a convicted felon to pay the cost of court ordered venereal disease, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV, and AIDS tests. The House substitute clarified that this bill does not preempt the priority list of payments already in statute if the convicted individual has only a limited amount of funds and a list of required

payments he/she must make. The substitute also addressed local public health department's concerns that the money collected for the cost of the court-ordered testing be given to the entity that performed the test. Finally, the substitute adds Hepatitis C to the list of tests that may be court-ordered.

• HB 4172 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.